



Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Energy Assistance Program Funding Still Available for Marion County Residents

INDIANAPOLIS- Since November 1, 2012, local community organizations have been accepting applications for Indiana's Energy Assistance Program. Indiana received \$70 million from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services to administer the program. To date, the state has served nearly 120,000 households.

Community Action of Greater Indianapolis (CAGI) has served as the primary intake location for Energy Assistance in Marion County for many years. In 2012, the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA), who administers the federally funded program, added the John H. Boner Community Center and the Centers for Working Families to the network of providers in Marion County. Currently, Marion County residents have 16 community based locations to apply for assistance.

Marion County residents account for nearly one-fourth of the state's EAP population. Since the start of the heating season, CAGI and the Boner Center have served more than 23,000 households. The current average benefit is \$292.

The heating season is not over. Funding throughout the state will be available until May 17, 2013. The agencies have set a goal to serve an additional 7,000 clients in Marion County before the heating season ends. Statewide, agencies are set to serve an additional 17,000 households. Households may only receive one benefit per season, so those who have already been served are not eligible to receive further assistance this heating season.

To qualify for Energy Assistance, the household's income must not exceed 150% of the federal poverty level. For example, a family of four making less than \$34,575 would qualify, as well as an individual with an income of \$16,755 or less. The maximum benefit is \$385 per year, and is paid in a one-time lump sum directly to the applicant's utility company. Agencies meet individually with applicants to determine eligibility.

Clients may contact Community Action of Greater Indianapolis at (317) 524-6966 or the John H. Boner Community Center at (317) 808-2378 for more information about scheduling an

appointment. If you live outside of Marion County and would like information about applying for EAP, visit www.ihcda.in.gov and click on the Energy Assistance tab for more information.

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The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA), chaired by Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann, creates housing opportunity, generates and preserves assets, and revitalizes neighborhoods by investing financial and technical resources in the development efforts of qualified partners throughout Indiana. IHCDA believes that growing Indiana's economy starts at home. For more information, go to www.ihcda.in.gov.

For updates from Lt. Governor Ellspermann and the agencies she oversees, please sign up at www.lg.in.gov.